

LIT TALKS



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MapLIT: School, Community, and Health Factors Related to Third- Grade Literacy

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Purpose of the Study

Can we identify school, community, and health factors that are related to 3rd grade reading achievement?

Data Source

MapLIT | Read On Arizona

- Data gathered by the Arizona Department of Education, Arizona Department of Health Services, First Things First, and Head Start
- Included school-level and district-level data as well as data on health-related outcomes and parent involvement



What we looked at

School-/District-Level Variables

- Percent Passing 3rd Grade AIMS Reading in 2014
- Charter or District
- Schoolwide Enrollment
- Percent Free and Reduced Lunch
- 3rd Grade Attendance Rate in 2014
- 2nd Grade Retention Rate in 2012
- Schoolwide Chronic Absence Rate in 2014
- Kindergarten Type
- Number of Preschools in Zip Code

What we looked at

Health Variables

- Percentage of low birth weight births in 2008
- Percentage of preterm births in 2008
- Percentage of teen births per 1,000 women in 2008
- Rate of ER visits for 6 to 8 year olds with Asthma as the principal diagnosis per 10,000 ER visits in 2012

What we looked at

Family Involvement

- How frequently parents/guardians read with their children
- How frequently parents/guardians tell stories or sing songs
- The number of books in the home

Key Findings

Poverty matters.

- For a **10%** increase in school-level poverty, there is an average decrease of **3%** in the number of students passing 3rd grade AIMS reading.

Key Findings

Charter schools are doing well.

- On average, charter schools had **6%** more students passing 3rd grade AIMS reading.

This, however, should be interpreted in light of some caveats.

Key Findings

Attendance matters.

- A **1%** increase in 3rd grade attendance is associated with a **1.5%** increase in the percentage of students passing 3rd grade AIMS reading.
- A **1%** increase in chronic absenteeism (missing 18 or more days in a given year) is associated with an average decrease of **.3%** of students passing 3rd grade AIMS reading.

Read More:

ReadOnArizona.org/data-center



FACTORS RELATED TO EARLY
CHILDHOOD LITERACY

An Exploratory Study

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